

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

MAY 24, 2016

Reassessing the County Email Security Solutions

On June 16, 2009 the Los Angeles County (County) Board of Supervisors (Board) approved the Chief Information Officer's (CIO) recommendation to use the Information Technology Fund to acquire hardware, software, and maintenance for centralized email anti-virus and anti-spam protection for 30,000 County employee email users. Additionally, the Board approved to mandate Cisco's IronPort and Cisco Registered Envelope (CRES) proprietary software as standard information technology security solutions for securing County email communications for all County departments.

In 2009, it was appropriate for the County to standardize email security solutions because there were multiple decentralized email systems across departments but, subsequent to the approval of this mandate, County email systems have changed drastically. In May 2012, the Internal Services Department (ISD) implemented a Countywide Email System which consolidated the vast majority of the County's email systems into a centralized environment hosted at ISD's data center. Subsequently, in May 2014, the Board approved the CIO's recommendation to migrate the Countywide Email System into the cloud-based Office 365 platform. Office 365 provided email service, increased efficiency, and productivity applications, and resulted in cost savings as a result of decommissioning existing hardware and consolidating fifteen separate Enterprise License Agreements.

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The County's new cloud-based email system license already includes most, if not all, of the security features that IronPort and CRES provide. The current Office 365 license includes the Exchange Online Protection system which provides anti-spam and anti-malware protection, Office 365 Message Encryption which provides secure encrypted email communications, and Data Loss Prevention which protects sensitive data from being sent inadvertently.

With the rapid development of Information Technology (IT) solutions, the County must continuously reassess its existing IT and security solutions while also exploring new solutions to best address its needs and acquiring those solutions through open and competitive solicitations.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1. Direct the Acting Director of the Internal Services Department, in coordination with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), to reassess Los Angeles County's (County) email security needs within the existing email system and report back to the Board of Supervisors (Board) in writing within 30 days with the feasibility of maximizing the tools available in the existing cloud-based Email system;
2. Direct the CEO to sunset the security solution standard approved by the Board on June 16, 2009 that mandated the use of Cisco's IronPort and Registered Envelope for securing all County email communications; and
3. Direct the CEO to prospectively conduct open and competitive solicitations for email and other security solutions.

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